

Claims

1. A method for transferring a data flow by creating a connection on a packet radio service of a telecommunication system, said connection constituting a packet data channel, wherein the data flow comprises at least one active data transfer period, and after an active data transfer period the connection is maintained for a predetermined time period, whereafter the connection is released unless a new active period starts before the predetermined time period has lapsed, **characterized** in that the length of said predetermined time period is determined by the telecommunication system, and information on said determined value is transferred from the telecommunication system to a mobile station.
2. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that said information is transferred on a dedicated signalling channel.
3. A method according to claim 2, **characterized** in that said information is transferred on a Packet Data Assignment message.
4. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that said information is transferred on a broadcast channel.
5. A method according to claim 4, **characterized** in that said information is transferred on a system information message.
6. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the radio service is GPRS.
7. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that when a passive data transfer period follows an active data transfer period, the network allocates a number of transmit permissions that can be allocated to other temporary block flows on the packet data channel.
8. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that when the same packet data channel is allocated for more than one connection of delay sensitive data, all such connections having a passive period, and when a first connection changes to an active transfer period, a second connection is reallocated to another packet data channel.
9. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that when releasing a temporary block flow in a first direction (uplink/downlink) of packet data transfer, a

temporary block flow in the opposite data transfer direction is maintained at least for a predetermined time.

10. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the network is informed on whether the packet data to be transferred is delay sensitive.

5 11. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the value of said time period is determined on the basis of the required quality of service value of the connection.

12. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the value of said time period is determined on the basis of the communication type of the connection.

10 13. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the value of said time period is determined on the basis of the momentary communication activity in the network and/or cell.

14. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the said information is transferred as a parameter, wherein the parameter may have a determined number of
15 alternative values, and each alternative parameter value corresponds to a determined value of the length of the time period.

15. A method according to claim 14, **characterized** in that the length of the time period equals to a parameter value multiplied with a predetermined reference time value.

20 16. A method according to claim 15, **characterized** in that said reference time value is given to the mobile station in one of the following ways:

- the reference time value is broadcasted in a system information message;
- the reference time value is broadcasted in signalling messages; or
- the timer value is a defined constant in system specifications.

25 17. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the said information on the time period value is transferred during the resource allocation for the data transfer.

18. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the said information on the time period value is transferred during the data transfer.

30 19. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the said information on the time period value is transferred during a passive period.

20. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the mobile station sends an initial value for the time period and the network determines the value for the time period on basis of said initial value.

5 21. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the value for the time period is related with uplink data transfer.

22. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the value for the time period is related with downlink data transfer.

10 23. A telecommunications system for transferring a data flow by creating a connection on a packet radio service, wherein the data flow comprises at least one active data transfer period, and the telecommunication system comprises means for maintaining the connection for a predetermined time after an active data transfer period and means for releasing the connection after the predetermined time period has passed unless a new active period has started, **characterized** in that the telecommunication system further comprises means for determining the length of
15 said predetermined time period, and means for transferring information on said determined value from the telecommunication system to a mobile station.

20 24. A mobile station for transferring a data flow by creating a connection on a packet radio service to a cellular telecommunications system, wherein the data flow comprises at least one active data transfer period, and the mobile station comprises means for maintaining the connection for a predetermined time after an active data transfer period and means for releasing the connection after the predetermined time period has passed unless a new active period has started, **characterized** in that the mobile station further comprises means for receiving information on length of said predetermined time period from the telecommunication system.